

State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

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March 2, 2004

TO:

File

FROM:

Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist

SUBJECT:

Site Inspection; Graymont Western US, Inc.; Cricket Mountain

Quarry; M/027/006; Millard County, Utah

Date of Inspection:

February 19, 2004

Time of Inspection:

About 7:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Conditions:

Cloudy, 30's, snow showers, a few inches of snow on the

ground in protected areas and north-facing slopes

Participants:

Terry McIntyre, Graymont; Paul Baker, DOGM

## **Purpose of Inspection:**

The operator is planning to open a new area for mining, and I wanted to get a feel for how much soil and vegetation are in the area and the species of plants present. At first, the operator plans to mine starting at two old quarries toward the east side of a rock outcrop. About 130,000 tons of limestone would be mined to get a large enough sample to do a test burn.

## **Observations:**

The proposed Allsop Mine is about two or three miles north of the Poison Mountain Mine. There is an existing county road leading to, then past some historic quarries. The operator intends to widen this road for the test burn mining, and if this is successful, another road would be built from the crusher to the new mine.

Vegetation cover is about 20-25 percent, and although there are different plant communities on the valley floor, on the slopes, and on rock outcrops, the amount of vegetation cover does not vary a lot. Many of the lower areas appear to have been disturbed, possibly by road building, grazing, fire, mining, or some combination of these. These disturbed areas are dominated by halogeton, cheatgrass, and stork's bill or filaree. The foreground of Photo 1 shows a small area that appears to have been disturbed. It also shows slopes where shadscale, snakeweed, and black sage are dominant.



## ATTACHMENT

## Photographs M/027/006, Cricket Mountain Quarry, Graymont Western

Inspection Dated: February 19, 2004; Report Dated: March 2, 2004



Photo 1. The north side of where the Allsop Mine would be located. Note the previously disturbed areas.



Photo 2. Closeup of black sage.



Photo 3. An overview of some of the rock outcrop areas that would be mined.



Photo 4. On top of one of the rock outcrops with disturbance from one of the old quarries near the center of the picture.

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Photo 5. The Poison Mountain Mine.



Photo 6. Panorama of one of the previously disturbed areas.